

**Council on Postsecondary Education  
Committee on Equal Opportunities  
October 13, 2009**

**Southern Regional Education Board  
Doctoral Scholars Program**

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Doctoral Scholars Program is a cooperative interstate venture to address the underrepresentation of minorities with a terminal degree. The program seeks to increase the number of minorities employed as college faculty and executives by increasing the available pool. The SREB program is part of a national effort; similar programs exist in the northeast and the west. The program is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation.

Student participation in the program is a collaborative effort among the Council on Postsecondary Education, the University of Kentucky, and the University of Louisville. The specific areas of concentration supported by the program are science, mathematics, education (math or science), and engineering. As of January 2009, there were over 400 graduates with 79 percent employed in education, 97 percent employed as campus faculty members, and 71 percent employed in the 16 SREB states. There are 16 graduates employed by Kentucky institutions.

**Status of Kentucky Scholars**

- The program has served 86 scholars as of December 2008, produced 44 graduates, and has 40 students currently matriculating.
- There are 79 African Americans, 2 Hispanic Americans, 4 American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and one scholar identified as other. There are 55 females and 31 males served by the program.
- Fields of study are science and technology (20 percent), social and behavioral sciences (30 percent), humanities (30 percent), health professions (2 percent), business and management (4 percent), mathematics (4 percent), engineering (6 percent), and education (4 percent).
- The University of Kentucky has served 52 scholars, the University of Louisville 33 scholars, and a non-Kentucky institution has served one scholar. In fall 2009 an additional 12 scholars have enrolled (three at the University of Kentucky and nine at the University of Louisville).
- Time to degree from program entrance averaged 1.8 years for scholars entering the program to complete the dissertation and 3.3 years for doctoral scholars (students having to complete the entire Ph.D. program including the dissertation).
- Of the 44 graduates, 35 are currently employed with 81 percent in postsecondary education.

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